S/N 08/921,481

**PATENT** 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Woolford et al.

Examiner:

Taylor, D.

Serial No.:

08/921,481

Group Art Unit:

3506

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Filed:

September 2, 1997

Docket No.:

3616.20USF1

Title:

COMPOSITE MASONRY BLOCK

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

GROUP 2500

Dear Sir:

Following from the continuation application filed September 2, 1997 Applicants provide the following amendments.

## **AMENDMENTS**

## In the Claims

Please amend claims 56, 61, and 66 as follows:

(Amended) A composite masonry block suitable for use in forming straight and serpentine retaining walls having a set back from course to course, said block comprising:

- a) a block body and an integral locator lip formed in a mold with generally vertical sidewalls, an open top and an open bottom seated upon a generally horizontal flat pallet, by a process comprising the steps of:
  - i) filling the mold via its open top with a masonry block mix comprising sand, aggregate, and cement;

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ii) vibrating the masonry block mix within the filled mold;

iii) compacting the masonry block mix within the mold by the action of a compression head pushed down on the masonry block mix through the open top of the mold, whereby the masonry block mix forms an